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The paper is a practical one and of both interest and value. The author summarizes the paper: "English Sparrows are abundant in most of the towns in the United States and in many suburban districts. They are noisy, filthy, and destructive. They drive native birds from villages and homesteads. Though they are occasionally valuable as destroyers of noxious insects, all things considered, they do far more harm than good. Practicable methods of dealing with them include destruction of nests, shooting, trapping, and poisoning. Of these, trapping is unquestionably the best. English Sparrows are good to eat, and their use as food is recommended because of their nutritive value and as a means of reducing their numbers."

L. J.

Some Common Game, Aquatic, and Rapacious Birds in Relation to Man. By W. L. McAtee and F. E. L. Beal, Assistants, Biological Survey. Farmers' Bulletin 497. Department of Agriculture. Issued May 6, 1912.

Besides the interest which this 30-page pamphlet elicits on account of its practical value to the interests of agriculture, there is the unusual interest which attaches to the appearance of figures from the pencil of a new bird artist. In this case none other than the writer's acquaintance and friend, Robert J. Sim. We say "new bird artist," but we remind the reader that Mr. Sim is not an entire stranger to readers of *The Wilson Bulletin*, for it contains reproductions from his hand. Of the fourteen figures in this pamphlet ten bear the signature of Mr. Sim. We heartily welcome him to the arena.

L. J.

The Flight of Birds. By F. W. Headley. With sixteen plates and many text-figures. Witherby & Co., 326 High Holborn, London. 12mo. 163 pages. Price 5s., net.

Mr. Headley is clearly well posted in aeronautics, and it is therefore fitting that he should find the flight of birds an interesting subject. The book is interestingly written and the illustrations are selected to bring out certain points in the discussion. We have seen pictures that seemed to better illustrate the flight of birds, or at least appealed to the eye more strongly. On the whole the book is a valuable contribution to the discussion of bird flight.

L. J.

Birds of North and Middle America. By R. Ridgway. (Part V.)

The fifth volume of this monumental work treats of the Families Pteroptochidæ (1 species), Formicariidæ (66 species and sub-